

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A spinner hubcap for an automobile wheel, comprising:
 - a base plate adapted for attachment to the automobile wheel;
 - a shaft having a central portion, said shaft having an inner end attached to said base plate, and an opposing outer end;
 - an outer plate retained on the outer end of said shaft, the outer plate being free to rotate about the outer end of said shaft;
 - a bearing attached to said outer plate, the bearing being disposed about the central portion of said shaft; and
 - a hubcap shell attached to said outer plate, wherein said outer plate and said hubcap shell rotate about said shaft in response to wind and inertia after initial rotation of the wheel, wherein the hubcap shell rotates at a rate independent of the speed of rotation of the wheel.
2. The spinner hubcap as recited in claim 1, wherein said inner end of said shaft has an exterior surface and wherein said exterior surface is threaded.

3. The spinner hubcap as recited in claim 1, wherein said outer end of said shaft has an exterior surface and wherein said exterior surface is smooth.

4. The spinner hubcap according to claim 1, further including a plurality of wheel studs adapted for attachment to the automobile wheel, each wheel stud having an internally threaded bore defined therein.

5. The spinner hubcap according to claim 4, further including plural bolts for mounting said base plate to said wheel studs.

6. The spinner hubcap according to claim 1, further including a retainer plate mounted between said base plate and said outer plate.

7. The spinner hubcap according to claim 1, wherein said hubcap shell has plural openings therethrough and further including plural bolts disposed through said openings for attaching said hubcap shell to said outer plate.

8. The spinner hubcap according to claim 1, further including at least one balancing weight attached to said hubcap shell.

9. A spinner hubcap for an automobile wheel, comprising:

a base plate adapted for attachment to the automobile wheel;

a shaft having a central portion, said shaft having an inner end attached to said base plate, and an opposing outer end;

an outer plate retained on the outer end of said shaft, the outer plate being free to rotate about the outer end of said shaft;

a bearing attached to said outer plate, the bearing being disposed about the central portion of said shaft; and

a hubcap shell attached to said outer plate, said hubcap shell having an inner surface; and

at least one balancing weight attached to said inner surface of said hubcap shell, wherein said outer plate and said hubcap shell rotate about said shaft in response to wind and inertia after initial rotation of the wheel, and wherein said hubcap shell rotates at a rate independent of speed of rotation of the wheel.

10. The spinner hubcap as recited in claim 9, wherein said inner end of said shaft has an exterior surface and wherein said exterior surface is threaded.

11. The spinner hubcap as recited in claim 9, wherein said outer end of said shaft has an exterior surface and wherein said exterior surface is smooth.

12. The spinner hubcap according to claim 9, further including a plurality of wheel studs adapted for attachment to the automobile wheel, each wheel stud having an internally threaded bore defined therein.

13. The spinner hubcap according to claim 12, further including plural bolts for mounting said base plate to said wheel studs.

14. The spinner hubcap according to claim 9, further including a retainer plate mounted between said base plate and said outer plate.

15. The spinner hubcap according to claim 9, wherein said hubcap shell has plural openings therethrough and further including plural bolts disposed through said openings for attaching said hubcap shell to said outer plate.